



March 28, 2008

San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board
Attention: Richard Wright, Chair
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123

RE: Carlsbad Desalination Project, # R9-2006-0065, NPDES No. CA0109223
April 9, 2008 Hearing – Agenda Item 7

Dear Mr. Wright:

I am President of the Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation. I have written several times on behalf of the Carlsbad Desalination Project and, once again, I am asking you to help move this project forward.

The Foundation's mission is to conserve, restore and enhance the environmental features of the Agua Hedionda Lagoon, marsh, wetlands and watershed area; protect sensitive land through acquisition or other means; and, promote balanced recreational and commercial uses consistent with assured future lagoon vitality. As such, we have been particularly mindful of potential entrainment and impingement impacts on lagoon marine life in reviewing the proposed desalination plant.

The Regional Board has put stringent permit conditions in place that allows the desalination plant to utilize the power station's seawater intake and outfall infrastructure. In compliance with Water Code Section 13142.5(b), Poseidon Resources submitted a Flow, Entrainment and Impingement Minimization Plan to your agency. My organization has studied this plan and we are completely satisfied that there are sufficient marine environment protections in place.

We also believe that operation of the Carlsbad Desalination Plant will be critical to the Agua Hedionda Lagoon. Poseidon's commitment to dredge the lagoon once the power plant ceases to operate will ensure that the lagoon's ecosystem will remain balanced and healthy. Additionally, Poseidon has pledged annual funding for the Foundation's Academy for Environmental Stewardship. This elementary school program reaches children at a young age so they can understand the importance of preserving our watershed and wetlands. We note that Poseidon's commitment to serve as a steward for the Agua Hedionda Lagoon and the surrounding watershed will guarantee for many years to come that the citizens of Carlsbad will be able to enjoy the benefits of this clean lagoon and its surrounding beaches. This commitment will provide real environmental benefit and rises above and beyond the wetlands mitigation proposed in the Minimization Plan.



The Foundation would like to state very clearly our support for the Carlsbad Desalination Project and corresponding lagoon stewardship. We urge you to approve Poseidon's Flow, Entrainment and Impingement Minimization Plan at your April 9 meeting.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Munoz".

Eric Munoz, President
Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation

cc:

David King, Vice Chairman
Susan Ritschel, Board Member
Eric Anderson, Board Member
Wayne Rayfield, Board Member
Elizabeth Pearson-Schneider, Board Member
Kris Weber, Board Member
John Robertus, Executive Director
Eric Becker
Michael McCann
John Odermatt